

Message Text

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65

ACTION SS-25

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R 131722Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8043

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 00538

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: BDIS, EMIN, SF, US

SUBJECT: INFORMANT OFFERS ANGLO-AMERICAN DOCUMENTS

REF: (A) STATE 298487; (B) PRETORIA 4900

1. ACCORDING TO REPRESENTATIVE WHO CALLED AT EMBASSY JANUARY 12, MYSTERY CALLER IS FUOAD KAMIL. REPRESENTATIVE SAID THAT KAMIL, A LEBANESE, ACTED FOR YEARS AS AN INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATOR FOR ANGLO-AMERICAN, RECOVERING STOLEN DIAMONDS AND LOOKING INTO THE BACKGROUNDS OF MANY PEOPLE ASSOCIATED WITH OR WORKING FOR THE ORGANIZATION. KAMIL CLAIMS THAT ANGLO-AMERICAN RENEGED ON A DEBT TO HIM OF 40,000 POUNDS IN 1970 WHICH LED TO THEIR FALLING OUT. IN RETALIATION FOR THIS AND OTHER GRIEVANCES, KAMIL HATCHED A PLOT TO KIDNAP NICHOLAS OPPENHEIMER, HARRY'S SON. ALONG WITH A PALESTINIAN ACCOMPLICE, KAMIL HIJACKED A PLANE WHICH HE BELIEVED TO BE CARRYING THE YOUNG OPPENHEIMER. PLANS WENT AWRY, HOWEVER, THE PLANE LANDED IN MALAWI, AND KAMIL AND HIS PARTNER WERE DETAINED BY SECURITY FORCES IN BLANTYRE. KAMIL WAS SENTENCED TO ELEVEN YEARS IN JAIL BUT RELEASED AFTER TWO. HE REMAINS, SAID THE REPRESENTATIVE, BITTER AND BENT ON REVENGE.

2. KAMIL SUBSEQUENTLY CALLED EMBASSY OFFICER TO ELABORATE ON INFORMATION ABOVE. HE SAID THAT IN 1970, AS HE WAS REACHING THE FINAL STAGES OF "OPERATION EXECUTIVE,"
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HE CAME ACROSSQ "ONE SIGNATURE IN CONNECTION WITH HEAVY

TRANSFERS TO A SWISS ACCOUNT FROM WHICH CERTAIN POLITICIANS WERE DRAWING MONEY." ANGLO-AMERICAN ORDERED HIM TO DROP THE PROJECT AND OFFERED TO PURCHASE THE FILES HE HAD DEVELOPED. KAMIL REFUSED AND THE BATTLE WAS JOINED.

3. KAMIL CONTINUES TO BE ELLIPTICAL IN HIS TELEPHONE CONVERSATION AND CAUTIOUS ABOUT DISCLOSING HIS WHEREABOUTS. HE WILL CALL AGAIN IN SEVERAL DAYS TO SEE IF USG IS INTERESTED IN PURSUING THE MATTER. KAMIL CLAIMS TO HAVE EXTENSIVE DOCUMENTATION ON ANGLO-AMERICAN DEALINGS, OFFERS HIS HELP AND COOPERATION, AND CLAIMS TO WANT NOTHING IN RETURN. HE IS ANXIOUS FOR A PERSONAL MEETING.

4. REQUEST GUIDANCE.

RICHARDSON

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NNN

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